

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DODE-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PRS-01

RSR-01 /065 W

----- 010959

R 231139 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4221
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
CINCPAC
CDR JCRC NKP

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 3849

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: MISSING CASI PORTER AIRCRAFT - MIA EMMET KAY

REF: A) VIENTIANE 35 76

B) VIENTIANE 3750 (NOTAL)

1. ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO FBIS BANGKOK 211246 Z
MAY 73, WHICH TRANSMITS TEXT OF AFP VIENTIANE STORY
ON MISSING CASI PORTER AIRCRAFT. REPORT STATES THAT
LPF PERMREP SOTH PHETRASY HAS PROTESTED THE VIOLATION
OF "PATRIOTIC FORCES" AIRSPACE BY A "GOVERNMENT
RECONNAISSANCE PLANE" WHICH WAS FORCED TO CRASH LAND
IN SAM THONG/ LONG TIENG AREA. REPORT THEN STATES
U. S. EMBASSY APPROACHED PATHET LAO "TO HAVE PILOT AND
OCCUPANTS FREED, BUT NOTHING HAS BEEN HEARD OF THEM
SINCE." ARTICLE CONTINUES BY CITING OTHER CEASEFIRE
VIOLATIONS CLAIMED BY SOTH.

2. INFORMATION CONTAINED ABOVE AND THAT
INFORMATION REPORTEDLY TRANSMITTED BY PL RADIO ON MAY
15 (REF B) IS MATERIAL TO QUESTION OF WHETHER PL HAVE
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INDEPENDENT KNOWLEDGE OF WHEREABOUTS OF AIRCRAFT AND ITS PASSENGERS. MEMO WE TRANSMITTED PERSONALLY TO PHOUMI VONGVICHIT ON MAY 10 STATED THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS MISSING WITH ITS AMERICAN PILOT AND FOUR LAO PASSENGERS, WHICH WE BELIEVED WAS TRUE WHEN MEMO WAS PREPARED. REPORTED PL RADIO BROADCAST KWHICH REMAINS UNCONFIRMED) AND SOTH' S PROTEST CITED ABOVE BOTH REFER TO AN AMERICAN PILOT AND SIX MEO PASSENGERS. IT HAS NOW BEEN CONFIRMED THAT THERE WERE IN FACT SIX MEO PASSENGERS ON THE FLIGHT. ALTHOUGH IT IS POSSIBLE THE TRUE FACTS MIGHT HAVE BEEN DETERMINED THROUGH PL INTEL SOURCES, WE ARE SATISFIED THAT LPF HAVE FIRST- HAND KNOWLEDGE OF STATUS OF PLANE AND ITS OCCUPANTS OR HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY OTHER PARTIES.

3. IN VIEW OF CONCLUSION PARA TWO

ABOVE, WE CONSIDER THAT AN EARLY FOLLOW- UP DEMARCHE TO LPF REPS HERE IS WARRANTED IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION THAT KAY AND HIS PASSENGERS ARE BEING HELD CAPTIVE AND, HOPEFULLY, ASSURANCES THAT THEY ARE BEING HUMANELY TREATED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT' S GUIDANCE ON WHETHER WE SHOULD APPROACH LPF HERE OR AWAIT RESULTS OF USG INITIATIVES TAKEN ELSEWHERE. PLEASE ADVISE.
DEAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

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